

# DECATUR TELEPHONE CO., INC.

## NETWORK TRANSPARENCY STATEMENT

Decatur Telephone Co., Inc. (“Decatur” or “Company”) provides this Network Transparency Statement in accordance with the FCC’s Restore Internet Freedom Rules to ensure that you have sufficient information to make informed choices about the purchase of broadband services.

Decatur engages in network management practices that are tailored and appropriate for achieving optimization on the network considering the particular network architecture and technology of its broadband Internet access service. Decatur’s goal is to ensure that all of its customers experience a safe and secure broadband Internet environment that is fast, reliable and affordable. Decatur wants its customers to indulge in all that the Internet has to offer, whether it is social networking, streaming videos and music, to communicating through email and videoconferencing.

Decatur’s network management includes congestion- and security-protocol-management and customers generally will not be impacted by the protocols and practices that Decatur uses to manage its network.

### **A. Decatur’s Network Transparency Disclosures**

Decatur uses various tools and industry standard techniques to manage its network and deliver fast, secure and reliable Internet service. Decatur believes in full transparency and provides the following disclosures about its network management practices:

1. **Blocking:** Decatur does not block or discriminate against lawful content.
2. **Throttling:** Decatur does not throttle, impair or degrade lawful Internet traffic.
3. **Affiliated Prioritization:** Decatur does not prioritize Internet traffic and has no plans to do so.
4. **Paid Prioritization:** Decatur has never engaged in paid prioritization. We don’t prioritize Internet for consideration to benefit particular content, applications, services or devices. Decatur does not have plans to enter into paid prioritization deals to create fast lanes.
5. **Congestion Management:** Decatur monitors the connections on its network in the aggregate on a continuous basis to determine the rate of utilization. If congestion emerges on the network, Decatur will take the appropriate measures to relieve congestion.

On Decatur's network, all customers have access to all legal services, applications and content online and, in the event of congestion, most Internet activities will be unaffected. Some customers, however, may experience longer download or upload times, or slower surf speeds on the web if instances of congestion do occur on Decatur's network.

Customers using conduct that abuses or threatens the Decatur network or which violates the company's Acceptable Use Policy, Internet service Terms and Conditions, or the Internet Service Agreement will be asked to stop any such use immediately. A failure to respond or to cease any such conduct could result in service suspension or termination.

Decatur's network and congestion management practices are 'application-agnostic', based on current network conditions, and are not implemented on the basis of customers' online activities, protocols or applications. Decatur's network management practices do not relate to any particular customer's aggregate monthly data usage.

Decatur monitors its network on a continuous basis to determine utilization on its network. Decatur also checks for abnormal traffic flows, network security breaches, malware, loss, and damage to the network. If a breach is detected or high-volume users are brought to light by complaint, Decatur provides notification to the customer via email or phone. If a violation of Decatur's policies has occurred and such violation is not remedied, Decatur will seek to suspend or terminate that customer's service.

6. **Application-Specific Behavior:** Except as may be provided elsewhere herein, Decatur does not currently engage in any application-specific behaviors on its network. Customers may use any lawful applications with Decatur.
7. **Device Attachment Rules:** Customers must use PPPoE for authentication of point to point connections between devices on the network. There is a limit of one (1) PPPoE session per account. For best results, DSL modems, wireless modems, or other proprietary network gateways used on the Decatur broadband network should be provided by Decatur. Customers may attach devices of their choosing to their modems, including wired or wireless routers, laptops, desktop computers, video game systems, televisions, or other network-enabled electronics equipment. However, customers are responsible for ensuring that their equipment does not harm Decatur's network or impair the service of other customers. Decatur is not responsible for the functionality or compatibility of any equipment provided by its customers. Customers are responsible for securing their own equipment to prevent unauthorized access to Decatur's broadband network by third parties and will be

held responsible for the actions of such third parties who gain unauthorized access through unsecured customer equipment.

8. **Network Security:** Decatur knows the importance of securing its network and customers from network threats and annoyances. The company promotes the security of its network and patrons by protections from such threats as spam, viruses, firewall issues, and phishing schemes. Decatur also deploys spam filters in order to divert spam from an online customer's email inbox into a quarantine file while allowing the customer to control which emails are identified as spam. Customers may access the spam files through the email. Spam files are automatically deleted.

As its normal practice, Decatur does not block any protocols, content or traffic for purposes of network management, but Decatur may block or limit such traffic as spam, viruses, malware, or denial of service attacks to protect network integrity and the security of our customers.

## **B. Network Performance**

### **1. Service Descriptions**

Decatur deploys Internet access to its subscribers through hardwired broadband access (DSL or Fiber).

### **2. Network Performance**

Decatur makes every effort to support advertised speeds and will dispatch repair technicians to customer sites to perform speed tests as needed to troubleshoot and resolve speed and application performance caused by Decatur's network. Decatur measures availability, latency, and aggregate utilization on the network and strives to meet internal service level targets.

However, the bandwidth speed at which a particular distant website or other Internet resources may be downloaded, or the speed at which your customer information may be uploaded to a distant website or Internet location is affected by factors beyond Decatur's control, including the speed of the connection from a distant web server to the Internet, congestion on intermediate networks, and/or limitations on your own computer equipment, including a wireless router. In addition, your service performance may be affected by the inside wiring at your premise. Accordingly, you, the customer, must consider the capabilities of your own equipment when choosing a Decatur broadband service. Your computers and/or wireless or other networks in your homes or offices may need an upgrade in order to take full advantage of the chosen Decatur broadband plan.

Decatur tests each service for actual and expected access speeds at the time of network installation to demonstrate that the service is capable of supporting the advertised speed. Customers may request assistance by calling our business office at [\(601\) 635-2252](tel:6016352252) or by email at [stephen@decaturtelephone.com](mailto:stephen@decaturtelephone.com).

Based on the network information Decatur receives from its monitoring efforts, Decatur's network is delivering data transmission rates advertised for the different high-speed Internet services. To be sure, Decatur has implemented a program of testing the performance of its network by using a test protocol similar to the one sanctioned by the FCC. We installed specific network performance monitoring equipment at aggregation points across our network and conducted a series of tests using this equipment. Decatur reports the results of this testing below. This result applies to both upload and download data rates, and applies for measurements made both at peak times and over a 24-hour period:

#### **DOWNLOAD & UPLOAD SPEEDS, LATENCY**

##### **DOWNLOAD SPEEDS**

<b>SPEED TIER</b>	<b>MEASURED (PEAK TIMES)</b>	<b>MEASURED (OFF-PEAK TIMES)</b>
<b>6 Mbps</b>	<b>5.8mbps</b>	<b>6.2mbps</b>
<b>12 Mbps</b>	<b>11.2mbps</b>	<b>12.1mbps</b>
<b>20 Mbps</b>	<b>19.3mbps</b>	<b>19.8mbps</b>
<b>50 Mbps</b>	<b>48.3mbps</b>	<b>49.8mbps</b>

##### **UPLOAD SPEEDS**

<b>SPEED TIER</b>	<b>MEASURED (PEAK TIMES)</b>	<b>MEASURED (OFF-PEAK TIMES)</b>
<b>1 Mbps</b>	<b>.087mbps</b>	<b>.098mbps</b>
<b>5 Mbps</b>	<b>4.5mbps</b>	<b>5mbps</b>
<b>10 Mbps</b>	<b>9.2mbps</b>	<b>10.1mbps</b>
<b>20 Mbps</b>	<b>19.5mbps</b>	<b>19.9bps</b>

##### **LATENCY**

<b>SPEED TIER</b>	<b>LATENCY (PEAK TIMES)</b>	<b>LATENCY (OFF-PEAK TIMES)</b>
<b>6/1 Mbps</b>	<b>34 ms</b>	<b>24 ms</b>
<b>12/5 Mbps</b>	<b>9 ms</b>	<b>8 ms</b>

20/10 Mbps	9 ms	8 ms
50/20 Mbps	9 ms	8 ms

### **3. Impact of Non-BIAS Data Services**

The FCC has defined Non-Broadband Internet Access Services (Non-BIAS) to include services offered by broadband providers that share capacity with Broadband Internet Access Services (BIAS) (previously known as “Specialized Services”) also offered by the provider over the last-mile facilities. At this time, Decatur is not offering any non-BIAS data services.

### **C. Commercial Terms**

Pricing and additional service information may be obtained upon request to Decatur Telephone at 149 7<sup>th</sup> St, Decatur, MS 39327.

For questions, complaints or requests for additional information, please contact Decatur at:

Business Office at 601.635.2252

Email at [annette@decaturtelephone.com](mailto:annette@decaturtelephone.com)